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Letter dated 26 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the European Parliament resolution on the application of Cyprus for membership in the European Union and the state of the negotiations, adopted on 4 October 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotirios **Zackheos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 26 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

European Parliament resolution on the application of Cyprus for membership in the European Union and the state of the negotiations adopted on 4 October 2000

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Cyprus's application for membership of the European Union, submitted on 3 July 1990 pursuant to Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union,

- having regard to the opinion of the Commission on this application (COM(1993) 313 - C4-0583/1997),

- having regard to the Council of Ministers decision of 6 March 1995, confirmed by the European Council in Helsinki,

- having regard to the first regular report from the Commission, issued on 17 December 1998, on Cyprus's progress towards accession (COM(1998) 710 - C4-0108/1999) and Parliament's resolution of 15 April 1999 on the same subject[1],

- having regard to the second regular report from the Commission, issued on 13 October 1999, on Cyprus's progress towards accession (COM(1999) 502 - C5-0025/2000),

- having regard to the decisions of the Copenhagen (21-22 June 1993), Florence (21-22 June 1996), Luxembourg (12-13 December 1997), and Helsinki (10-11 December 1999) European Councils,

- having regard to the accession negotiations with the Republic of Cyprus, which opened on 31 March 1998,

- having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 555/2000 of 13 March 2000 on the implementation of operations in the framework of the pre-accession strategy for the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Malta[2] and to the Accession Partnership with the Republic of Cyprus, endorsed by the Council on 20 March 2000[3],

- having regard to Rule 47(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

- having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy (A5-0249/2000),

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1 OJ C 219, 30.7.1999, p. 448.
2 OJ L 68, 16.3.2000, p. 3.
3 OJ L 78, 29.3.2000, p. 10.

A. whereas the Republic of Cyprus, hereinafter referred to as 'Cyprus', the only State entitled to represent the island as a whole, has made considerable economic and political advances even though the richest part of its territory has been occupied for 26 years by Turkey, a country associated with the Union to which, notwithstanding the above, candidate country status has just been accorded,

B. whereas Cyprus fully satisfies the Copenhagen political and economic criteria, as can be seen from the rapid progress of the accession negotiations,

C. whereas Cyprus can consequently expect to join the Union at an early stage and whereas any objection to its accession on account of the particular circumstances existing on the island would be both politically and morally untenable,

D. expressing the hope that the outcome of the UN-sponsored negotiations will be such as to ensure that the Greek and Turkish Cypriot populations can together reap the benefits of accession,

E. whereas the Union should become more actively involved to help bring about a negotiated settlement to end the partition of the island in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions,

F. whereas Cyprus will have a significant contribution to make to the CFSP,

1. Welcomes the progress made by Cyprus towards accession and urges the legal authorities of Cyprus to continue their efforts fully to incorporate the *acquis communautaire* so as to conclude accession negotiations as swiftly as possible;

2. Notes that, to date, 16 out of the 31 chapters have been completely dealt with and hopes that the accession negotiations will continue at the same intensive pace so as to enable Cyprus to join the Union once the outcome of the IGC now under way has been endorsed by the Union Member States;

3. Welcomes the decisions taken by the European Council at Helsinki not to make a solution to the Cyprus question a precondition for accession; urges the Turkish Cypriots to join the delegation of the legal Government of Cyprus, unconditionally, in negotiating the accession of the island to the European Union, since the Turkish Cypriot community will be able to enjoy the benefits of membership once the political question of Cyprus is resolved;

4. Deplores the lack of goodwill on the part of the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey to make progress with the negotiations on the question of Cyprus towards a settlement on the basis of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, and with the future constitutional arrangements;

5. Deplores the action of the Turkish troops in Cyprus who, on the eve of a new round of proximity talks, have been redeployed, occupying a part of the buffer zone;

6. Calls on the European Union, through its High Representative for the CFSP, to become more involved in the search for a solution to the Cypriot question and calls for the final political settlement to respect the *acquis communautaire*;

7. Notes that the Union is capable of making a vital contribution to the security of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities within the framework of a peace settlement and the demilitarisation of the island, that the Union can help resolve the problem of the controlled return of refugees and the repatriation of the settlers, and that it can make a dynamic contribution to the development of the northern part of Cyprus, once reunification has taken place;

8. Believes, in this respect, that projects involving the two communities should be instituted and dialogue between the parties encouraged in a new framework of confidence-building measures;

9. Takes the view, finally, that the accession of Cyprus will strengthen the Union's influence in the eastern Mediterranean, thus making for greater security in that region;

10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission, the parliaments of the Member States and the Government and Parliament of the Republic of Cyprus.